

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-11 are pending in this application.

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2 are amended to recite additional features disclosed in the specification at, for example, Figs. 7 and 8 and paragraph [0087].

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP 2001-100251 to Muraide in view of JP 64-052129 to Hiroshi et al.; and rejects claims 1-6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,330,044 to Murade in view of Hiroshi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 is amended, as outlined above, to recite "the second light shielding film and the gate electrode overlapping with the each other in plan view by a distance of about 0.5 μm ." Claim 2 is similarly amended. Hiroshi does not disclose or suggest these features.

In particular, Figs. 4 and 5 of Hiroshi show prior art configurations where light shields 41, 51 greatly overlap gate electrodes 13, 32, respectively, in order to prevent light from impinging on the silicon layer of a thin film transistor and causing a leak current. However, this prior art configuration causes a problem in that a large capacitance is generated between the large light shield layer and the gate electrode.

To avoid this problem, Hiroshi teaches configurations in Figs. 1 to 3 where the light shielding film 11, 21, 31 and the gate electrode 13, 32 overlap with the each other in plan view by a distance of 0.3 μm or less. (See Abstract).


In view of the above, Hiroshi does not disclose or suggest an overlap of 0.5 μm . In fact, Hiroshi teaches away from an overlap over about 0.5 μm . Thus, Hiroshi does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 2.

Muraide and Murade do not supply the subject matter lacking in Hiroshi. Therefore, Hiroshi, Muraide and Murade, either individually or in combination, do not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 2, and claims 3-6 and 8-11 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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